GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3643
ANSWERED ON:23.08.2004
MONITORING OF PURITY OF RIVERS` WATER
Chowdhury Shri Adhir Ranjan

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has necessary institutions to assist in monitoring the purity of river` water in West Bengal;

(b) if so, whether the Government is monitoring chemical pollutants in rivers in the State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof alongwith the steps taken by the Government to protect the quality of rivers` water in the State?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (c) A monitoring network has been created under Ganga Action Plan for monitoring of river Ganga including the river stretch in West Bengal by involving premier universities/institutions in the programme. Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalay, Kalyani is monitoring Ganga river in West Bengal. Besides this, Central Pollution Control Board and West Bengal State Pollution Control Board are also engaged in monitoring of rivers in the state. Pollution indicating parameters namely, dissolved oxygen, biochemical oxygen demand, chemical oxygen demand, total nitrogen, total coliform & fecal coliform etc. are being monitored along with site specific heavy metals namely iron, manganese, copper, zinc, nickel, cadmium and lead. Government of India is implementing Ganga Action Plan for pollution abatement of the river which includes schemes for interception, diversion and treatment of sewage, setting up of crematoria, river front development and afforestation.